

MANSFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING

MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2016

PRESENT: Will Bigl (2018), Bev Korba (2018), Laurie McMorrow (2017), Martina Wharton (2018), Bettejane Karnes (2018), Don Nolan (2017), Nancy Trawick Smith (2017)

ABSENT: Jean Ann Kenny, Senior Center Association

STAFF: Pat Schneider, Human Services Director- Sarah Taylor, Senior Center Supervisor

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: David Palmer (Juniper Hill)- John Adamcik (Wright's Way)- Judy Bigl (Jensen's Park)

GUESTS: Lida Bilokur

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

December 14, 2015 minutes were reviewed and accepted with several corrections regarding spelling of members names.

GUEST SPEAKER Elizabeth Grant, WTRD Administrator gave the following report to Commission members.

- The two biggest problems facing WTRD at present time are they don't have enough drivers or vehicles to meet the demands of the growing numbers of those needing public transportation. Full and part-time drivers are needed and are provided with benefits. WTRD serves ten towns.
- Ridership is open to the public. Needs are not prioritized. Service is door to door.
- They receive state and federal funding.
- WTRD only receives 10% from fares.
- All buses have GPS
- A DOT study would be advantageous to allow WTRD to improve services in the future.

Ms. Grant provided a print out for members that outlined the types of passengers and purposes for all trips

PAT SCHNEIDER'S REPORT: Agency grants will appear on next agenda.

- Budget will be presented to town manager.
- Three top firms chosen for study of town buildings. Will be negotiating with all three.
- Schools are not included in the study.
- Senior Center is presently fully staffed.

SARAH TAYLOR'S REPORT: Sarah stated the past four months included several big events that were very successful. Also stated that the "right people" are in the "right jobs". She is looking forward to the accreditation process.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: **David Palmer** (Juniper Hill) would like to post minutes of COA meetings for residents in his community. He would also like to have more copies of “Sparks” to distribute to his neighbors.

Judy Bigl (Jensen’s Park) also requested more copies of “Sparks” for distribution among her neighbors.

John Adamcik (Wright’s Way) offered to deliver copy of “Sparks” to neighbors unable to visit Senior Center.

NEW BUSINESS;

WILL BIGL distributed letters to DOT Commissioner James P. Redeker and the Mansfield Town Council, supporting the need for a DOT study of Mansfield future transportation needs. Members accepted letters format with a few changes in wording.

NEW SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE: Bettejane Karnes reported the following: A town facility study is in progress to determine the present condition of town public buildings and other features related to the buildings, ending with recommendations to the town. The Committee for a New Senior Center agreed to wait for this report before meeting again. The Committee also will ask to be present when the Facility Committee discusses the Senior Center.

PAT SCHNEIDER will update COA on facility study at our next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40am

Next meeting will be held on February 8, 2016 at 9:30 am in the Craft Room at the Senior Center

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bev Korba, Secretary